

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Attorney Docket No.: 1416.25US01

Carlyle et al.

Application No.: 09/014,087

Examiner: P. Prebilic

Filed: January 27, 1998

Group Art Unit: 3738

For: PROSTHESES WITH ASSOCIATED GROWTH FACTORS

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Box AF
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of November 29, 2001, amendment to the above-identified patent application is requested. Replacement claims are presented below, and marked-up claim amendments are presented on separate sheets at the end of this amendment.

In the Claims

Please substitute the following amended claims for those currently pending:

14. (Five Times Amended) A prosthetic heart valve comprising a substrate with associated VEGF, wherein said VEGF is associated with the substrate by direct attachment, a biologic adhesive, covalent bonding using crosslinking agents, antibody-antigen associations, specific binding protein-receptor associations or enzyme-substrate associations, the prosthesis having a valve structure, said polypeptide growth factors being effective to stimulate the affiliation of viable cells with said substrate.